

Office of Personnel Management

FPM Letter 531-54

## Federal Personnel Manual System

FPM Letter 531-54

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Ch. 531.

RETAIN UNTIL SUPERSEDED

**SUBJECT:** Increase in Pay Ceiling

Washington, D. C. 20415

October 12, 1979

### Heads of Departments and Independent Establishments:

1. On September 30, 1979, certain fiscal year 1979 restrictions on the use of appropriated funds to pay increases in pay to certain Federal officers and employees expired. (Section 304 of Public Law 95-391 and section 613 of Public Law 95-429.) Therefore, effective on October 1, 1979, certain rates of pay established by Executive Order 12087, October 7, 1978, become payable.

2. For individuals in Executive Schedule offices, the rates payable on and after October 1, 1979, are as follows:

Level I	- \$69,600
Level II	- \$60,700
Level III	- \$55,400
Level IV	- \$52,800
Level V	- \$50,100

3. For General Schedule employees, the ceiling on payable rates (5 U.S.C. 5308) increases on October 1, 1979, from \$47,500 to \$50,100. Employees in General Schedule grades and steps that have been affected by the pay ceiling (the "asterisked" rates) are to be paid at the scheduled rate for their grade and step or \$50,100, whichever is lower, effective October 1, 1979. The affected grades and steps and the payable rates are as follows:

GS-15, step 9	- \$48,336
GS-15, step 10	- \$49,608
GS-16, step 3	- \$47,740
GS-16, step 4	- \$49,232
GS-16, steps 5 through 9	- \$50,100
GS-17, steps 1 through 5	- \$50,100
GS-18	- \$50,100

4. It must be noted that these rates are effective on October 1, 1979, even though that is not the first day of a pay period for most of the affected employees.

5. Agencies should make certain that the affected General Schedule employees are in the proper step of their grade. See FPM Letter 531-52 for instructions on pay administration for employees with "asterisked" rates.

6. Under 5 U.S.C. 5305 and 5 U.S.C. 5318, these rates will be adjusted again (along with all of the other rates of the General Schedule and related pay systems), effective on the first day of the first pay period beginning on or after October 1, 1979. For individuals paid on a monthly pay period, the effective date of this adjustment, when made, will be retroactive to October 1. For most employees, it will be effective on either October 7 or October 14. Guidance will be provided on this pay adjustment as soon as possible after the President establishes the rates by Executive order.

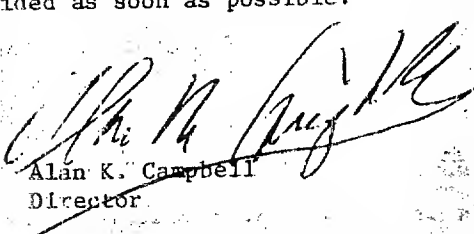
**Inquiries:** Advisory Services Office, FTS 632-5582, or ext. 25582

**Code:** 531, Pay Under the General Schedule

**Distribution:** FPM (Advance edition limited)

FPM Letter 531-54 (2)

7. It is possible that a new statutory limitation may be placed on the use of appropriated funds to pay increases in pay to some or all of the individuals affected by this FPM Letter. Such a limitation could affect the fiscal year 1980 pay increase (discussed above in paragraph 6) or could even affect the continued payment of the rates established for but not paid during fiscal year 1979 (discussed above in paragraphs 1 through 5). Guidance will be provided as soon as possible.

  
Alan K. Campbell  
Director